

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 19 and 23 as follows:

Claims 1 to 18 (canceled).

19(currently amended). A method for repeat transmission of messages in a centrally controlled communication network, in which several terminals (T1, T2,...) are simultaneously configured to operate ~~operable~~, said method comprising:

a) transmitting each of said messages once from a central station (ZE) for reception by each of said terminals (T1 ,T2,...) of a participating group of said terminals and assigning respective identifiers to corresponding messages for detection of message loss or message error;

b) as soon as one of said terminals (T1,T2,...) has detected an error in or loss of one of the messages, said one of said terminals detecting said error or said loss issues a repeat request for said one of said messages over a communication link between the central station (ZE) and the terminal (T1 ,T2,...) detecting said error or said loss; and

c) said central station (ZE) performs ~~a predetermined number of repeat transmissions of said one of said messages in response to the repeat request, but only within a predetermined time interval; and until a maximum number of said repeat transmissions is reached until said one of said terminals positively acknowledges receipt of the lost or erroneous message, and does not perform~~

~~any further repeat transmissions of said one of said messages after said maximum number has been reached~~

d) halting said repeat transmissions of said one of said messages within said predetermined time interval when a predetermined maximum number of repeat transmissions of said one of said messages has been reached within said predetermined time interval; and

e) halting said repeat transmissions of said one of said messages within said predetermined time interval when a positive acknowledgement of receipt of said one of said messages is received by said central station during said predetermined time interval from said terminal issuing said repeat request;

whereby clogging of said communication network by said repeat transmissions is effectively prevented.

20(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, wherein said centrally controlled communication network is a radio network and said communication link is a point-to-point link.

21(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, wherein said maximum number of said repeat transmissions is determined by a length of said predetermined time interval and a length of said message.

22(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, wherein said predetermined number of said repeat transmissions is limited by said one of said terminals detecting said loss or said error.

23(currently amended). The method as defined in claim 19, further comprising issuing said a-positive acknowledgement (ACK) of each correctly received message or issuing a negative acknowledgment (NACK) of the lost or erroneous message in order to inform said central station (ZE) whether or not message repetition is necessary.

24(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, wherein said respective identifiers comprise corresponding sequence numbers (SN) assigned to said corresponding messages, said repeat request includes one of said sequence numbers (SN) corresponding to said one of said messages detected as lost or erroneous and said central station (ZE) repeats transmission of said one of said messages with said one of said sequence numbers in response to the repeat request.

25(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 24, further comprising erasing or not using another of said messages received by said one of said terminals detecting said loss or said error when said another of said messages contains said sequence number of a previously correctly received message.

26(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 24, further comprising acknowledging only at least one of said sequence numbers in order to inform said central station (ZE) whether or not message repetition is necessary.

27(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 24, wherein a plurality of said sequence numbers of all previous ones of said messages since an immediately preceding acknowledgment are positively or negatively acknowledged in order to inform said central station (ZE) whether or not message repetition is necessary.

28(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, further comprising storing a plurality of sequentially transmitted messages in a memory for repeat transmission of said transmitted messages as needed and controlling said memory so that a newly transmitted message overwrites an oldest one of said transmitted messages stored in said memory.

29(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, wherein said participating group consists of all of or less than all of said terminals in said communication network.

30(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, further comprising assigning a temporary address to each of said terminals of said participating group.

31(previously presented). The method as defined in claim 19, further comprising assigning at least one predefined address to each of said terminals of said participating group for broadcast and/or multi-cast operation.